

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A laminated panel element comprising:

at least two rigid panes bonded to each other on their surfaces, which are each provided, over their whole surface, with an electrically conductive coating that can be heated by application of a voltage via electrodes[[],];

wherein one of the two rigid panes is provided with a cut-out, in a connection area, allowing passage of external electrical connections that are in electrical contact with the two coatings, ~~wherein~~ two surfaces of the two rigid panes facing each other are provided with electrically conductive coatings on either side of an adhesive layer that joins the panes, ~~and wherein~~ said cut out extends at least partially through said adhesive layer; and wherein a connecting device is located in the cut-out and is electrically connected to at least two of the electrically conductive coatings.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, further comprising at least a third rigid pane joined on its surface, and wherein at least one of the electrically conductive coatings is provided on both sides of the central rigid pane.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein both or all of the coatings may be used individually selectively, within a series circuit and/or within a parallel circuit.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein the coatings are composed of a same material and/or of a same layer configuration.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein the coatings are composed of different materials and/or layer configurations.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein current in at least one of the coatings always flows between two electrodes disposed within the connection area along a predetermined path that is created by a locally isolating division of the coating.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a temperature probe for detecting effective temperature of the heating coatings.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a switching element configured to be controlled by the temperature probe, for interruption or reduction of heating current when a predetermined temperature threshold is exceeded.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least the connection area is visually covered by a mask.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 28, wherein the visual mask is obtained by use of an opaque glass paste for the prestressed pane.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 28, wherein the visual mask is formed by an opaque decoration.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 30, wherein the opaque decoration is disposed as a thin layer between the surface of the pane and the heating coating.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein the electrodes are formed by application and heat treatment of an electrically conductive screen-printing paste before or after deposition of the heating coatings.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 32, wherein the electrodes are implemented in a form of visible decorative elements.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 18, wherein the coatings are electrically connected to the external connections by removable electrical contacts.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The laminated panel element as claimed in claim 34, wherein the removable electrical contacts include spring contacts.